

THE MORNING NEWS

Your Source for local news in English

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Epilepsy Foundation very active on "Purple Day!"

Pg 2

West accuses Syria over 3.5 million in need

Pg 6



MH370 search pivots north on new plane data

Pg 6

KLM envisions Aruba as hub in the Caribbean



ORANJESTAD -- The Aruba Minister of Tourism, Otmar Oduber, is currently in Holland attending various meetings as well as to be there for the Aruba Day celebrations. One of the meetings the Minister met with executives of the KLM airline. Accompanying the Minister on his mission are Minister Plenipotentiary Alfonso Boekhoudt, Camile Eurlings President and CEO of KLM and Willem de Jonge.

During the meeting they discussed the "load factors"

of KLM, which is extremely good, at above 80%.

They also discussed the flight schedule change as of April 1st. This flight will then be on Sundays rather than on Wednesdays. This, reportedly, will make this flight even more productive.

They also discussed the fact that as of May KLM will fly into Aruba using Bio Fuel for the first time.

One matter of great importance to Aruba is to make Aruba a hub in the Caribbean. This they believe

can be achieved because of the excellent relationship and connections of flights coming into Aruba from the region. They also have an excellent relationship with Insel Air, Gol and Delta. The relationship with these three airlines makes Aruba's goal of becoming a hub very strong and achievable, according to Minister Oduber.

According to Oduber, Aruba's relationship with KLM is excellent and very strong and we foresee a potential for growth in the future.

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pg 4

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British Vice Consul hosts "Crisis Planning" workshop on Aruba

ORANJESTAD -- Last Tuesday, British Vice Consul, Anne-Marie Pietersz-Powell hosted a workshop on Crisis Planning for the Aruban authorities at the Renaissance Convention Center.

Twenty Four (24) representatives of local authorities took part in the event, including the Fire Department, Police Force, Immigration Department, Customs, Aruba Port Authorities, Hospital, Maduro & Sons, AHATA, The Department of Health, The Disaster Management Bureau, and the Department of Foreign Affairs.

The aim of the workshop was to motivate organisations

to look at their crisis planning procedures, stressing the importance of exercising them more efficiently and on a regular basis.

The core message of the workshop being that **"A prepared organisation has crisis planning as part of its mindset"**.

The British Vice-Consul is planning to present this workshop to other islands in the region.

The British Vice-Consul is based in Willemstad Curacao, covering Curacao, Aruba, Bonaire, St. Eustatius, Saba (BES) St. Maarten, Saint Martin, St. Barthelemy, Guadeloupe, Martinique.

Epilepsy Foundation very active on "Purple Day!"

ORANJESTAD -- The Aruba Epilepsy Foundation this year again was extremely active on world Epilepsy Day. This was the day to stop and reflect on the challenges that epileptic patients face as they face the disease of epilepsy. The foundation dedicated an entire day to providing as much information as possible to patients as well as to the general public.

The day began with a visit to students at Colegio Arubano San Nicolas, where they shared flyers and "purple ribbons." This was followed by a visit to IPA where Neurologist Dr. Carla Di Caudo gave a lecture concerning the awareness of epilepsy. Later in the afternoon they visited the hospital to hand out flyers and provide information to the public. In this manner the Aruba Foundation for Epilepsy, which was founded in 2007, got an opportunity to give necessary attention to this disease.

"Purple Day" is an international observance with the goal of making the community aware of epilepsy. The day is observed on March 26th. Back in 2009 the epilepsy organization of Nova Scotia and of New York joined forces and so doing started what became an international observance known as "purple Day." The color purple was chosen to be the international color of the organization.

Millions of people worldwide suffer from epilepsy. It is estimated that 1 in every 100 persons may have an epileptic attack during their life time. This is why it is so



important that the community is well aware of the disease.

The goal of the Aruba Foundation is to, on a regular basis, hold lecture sessions and information nights. They also go to schools and social organizations giving informa-

tion.

This year again the Aruban community responded very well showing solidarity with patients and supporting the awareness campaign clad in purple colors.

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University of Aruba welcomes prospective students for their semi-annual open house

ORANJESTAD- Graduation time is just around the corner and this is the time when most of those that will be receiving their diplomas are looking toward their academic direction in the next school year. Many island students will travel to Europe, the U.S., or Latin America, but increasing numbers are interested in the far more affordable choice of remaining at home with their families and attending one of the four

faculties now offered at the University of Aruba.

The U of A is located in the heart of Oranjestad, next to the San Francisco Church. It was converted from what was home to a Jesuit order, and the environs have a real Old World charm, while new classroom have been added to accommodate the increase in faculties over the years.

University of Aruba has been continually expanding their program for earning de-

grees. The Faculty of Law (FdR) was the first established 1988, and the Faculty of Accounting, Finance & Marketing (FEF) which is now the most popular, was added in 1993. Both of these programs are taught in Dutch, with FEF also including English courses and lectures. FdR undergraduate program provides the student a degree in Aruban Law, and is required to access the Master Degree program.

Two degree programs taught in English are the Faculty of Hospitality and Tourism Management Studies (FHTMS), founded in 2005, and the Faculty of Arts and Science (FAS) established in 2009.

The FHTMS also offers undergraduate and graduate programs, and students can earn their MBA degree. FAS is a multi-study faculty "with a focus on social-cultural studies and humanities, research as well as social and community service opportunities."

Under the umbrella of the FAS is the program in Social Work & Development (SW&D) and Organization, Governance and Management (OGM.) Completion of either program awards graduates with a Bachelor of Arts Degree, providing skills for careers in management, as a researcher, policy advisor and consultant.

Professors, students and deans of the various faculties were out in force to welcome prospective students for the school year beginning in August as they explored their options. The school wel-



Prospective student meets with Dean of Tourism Faculty John Wardlaw

comes foreign students, who will find tuition is very reasonable compared to most U.S. schools, even state schools. Enrollment is modest, around 600 students in total, guaranteeing a great deal of personal attention and interaction with educators. There is also the great advantage of living on Aruba to study, often with a local family, and experiencing island life first hand.

Those interested in pursuing a course of study at the University of Aruba can visit their website, <http://www.ua-testsite.com/> to learn about the individual programs and extracurricular activities offered by the school's Office of Student Affairs and Student Council, which energetically pursue projects to further involve the students in community affairs and events.



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Aruba Doet...

Turtugaruba is still "on"



ORANJESTAD -- Aruba has known a big volunteer event last Friday and Saturday: Aruba Doet. Turtugaruba went to DRUIF beach with 69 participants and cleaned that beach, a turtle nesting habitat. Officially Aruba Doet is over, but Turtugaruba is still "on." Last Monday and Tuesday two other beaches have been prepared for the sea turtle nesting season with the help of 20 Marines under guidance of sergeant Arjan von der Weide. The beach of Dos Playa Grandi was rather clean, no plastics, but a lot of driftwood and trunks.

This wooden material was

taken away from the sea side and relocated on the inside of the beach to prevent quadracers and 4WD's from driving on this nesting beach. By removing the driftwood and trunks from the sea side there is no obstruction anymore for the sea turtles to find a good nesting site.

The same procedure was followed on Bachelor's Beach, a heavy polluted beach next to the Red Anchor. The beach now is ... beautiful and clean

Druif Beach

Turtugaruba also joined the ARUBA Doet with a "klus" at Druif Beach. In preparation of the sea turtle

nesting season this habitat was cleaned from ocean debris.

The job was done by 69 participants, from SABA, Schakel College, University of Aruba (FTHMS), Turtugaruba and several individual participants. Thank you very much!

Please do not drive on the white sand, driving compacts the sand and will damage the eggs.

More info: www.facebook.com/Turtugaruba Turtle Hotline (+297) 592 9393 (to report turtle activity: 24/7)



Aruba Tourism Authority supports Earth Hour

Tonight from 8:30 to 9:30 pm

ORANJESTAD -- Earth Hour is a worldwide movement for the planet organized by the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF). Earth Hour engages a massive mainstream community on a broad range of environmental issues. The event is held worldwide and held towards the end of March annually, encouraging individuals, communities, households and businesses to turn off their non-essential lights for one hour as a sym-

bol for their commitment to the planet. Earth Hour 2014 is scheduled for tonight, March 29, from 8:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. during participants' local time.

Aruba Tourism Authority wholly supports this initiative by turning off all non-essentials light inside and outside the building. It encourages individuals, businesses, and commerce in general to also do so for the benefit of our future generation.

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Kite Surfing

By: Roland W. Peterson.



Kite Surfing on Boca Grandi, is a "niche" (if I may call it so) that the Government should help. More and more people are coming from abroad to see and enjoy the beautiful "kite surfing" in Can. Can the Government do something about it? "Sure".

Now I am not an advocate that the Government take over all the activity of the "kite surfing" (because then the kites will not fly). It is a private initiative and should stay that way, but at least the Government could clean up the beach and have a little place that you can have something to drink or eat. And also to have an ambulance on standby etc.

I think that the ATA and the Minister of Tourism should look into this matter.

(This is a tip for "Desaroyo San Nicolas.")

Successful miniature boat competition on Aruba National Day

ORANJESTAD – To celebrate Aruba's National Anthem and Flag Day, Rancho Foundation organized on March 18 a miniature boat racing competition. After years of being dormant, this sport was revived.

Judging by its attendance, it was well received among islanders, with enthusiastic interest in the pastime. Several "sailors," who build their own boats, participated in the holiday races. Awards were presented in three categories.

The results are:

Category 30"

1st place: Dolores, owner Jubi;

2nd place: Aruba, owner Joseph and

3rd place, Angel, owner Michael.

Category 35"

1st place: Ban Serio, owner Jubi



2nd place: Sunrise, owner Humphrey

3rd place: Alba, owner Michael

Category 40"

1st place: Aruba, owner Joseph

2nd place: Black Dragon, owner Jubi

3rd place: Allan, owner Michael

Congratulations to all the winners.

West accuses Syria over 3.5 million in need

UNITED NATIONS (AFP) - The Syrian government is denying 3.5 million civilians access to UN aid convoys in defiance of a Security Council resolution that has seen the crisis worsen, Western powers warned yesterday.

Britain and the United States told the United Nations that Damascus bears overwhelming responsibility for denying UN relief workers access to an escalating number of people in need.

The Syrian government has allowed aid convoys to cross only one of eight border crossings identified by the United Nations as a priority, Western ambassadors said.

In February, the Security Council passed the first humanitarian resolution of the three-year civil war, demanding that the government and

armed opposition allow aid to reach civilians.

But in the first progress report a month on, UN humanitarian chief Valerie Amos said the situation had only deteriorated and she demanded blanket, unhindered access to affected populations.

Only six percent of the population living in besieged areas had received assistance in the last month, she said.

Since February 22, 300 cases of sexual violence have been recorded in and around Damascus alone, and hundreds of thousands more Syrians had been newly displaced. A piecemeal approach is ineffective and rising need demands unhindered access and a streamlined procedure.

"Spending days and weeks negotiating to get one inter-agency convoy is a waste of

valuable time," Amos said.

The United States said the Syrian government had "utterly failed" to comply with the UN Security Council resolution and remained the biggest obstacle to the delivery of aid.

Syrian government officials use administrative snares to cripple UN field missions, repeatedly hold up convoys and remove medical supplies from convoys, US ambassador Samantha Power said.

Power said 3.5 million people could be reached "literally with the stroke of a pen" if the Syrian government allowed UN convoys in through other border crossings.

"It is the government alone that is denying the UN access across these checkpoints," she said.

MH370 search pivots north on new plane data

PERTH (AFP) - A multinational fleet of planes and ships yesterday raced to a fresh search zone after a "credible new lead" that Malaysia Airlines Flight MH370 was flying faster than first thought before it plunged into the remote Indian Ocean.

Ten aircraft from six countries -- Australia, China, Japan, New Zealand, South Korea and the United States -- diverted to an area 1,100 kilometers (685 miles) northeast of where they have been looking for a week, far off western Australia.

Late Friday, the Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) said five aircraft had spotted "multiple objects" in the new search area but they were not expected to be reached by ship

for confirmation until today.

A few Chinese ships and an Australian naval vessel were steaming to the new zone after the weather cleared following the suspension of the air search Thursday due to thunderstorms and high winds.

Malaysian Transport Minister Hishammuddin Hussein said the new search area, "although more focused than before, remains considerable, and the search conditions, although easier than before, remain challenging".

The revised search sector -- about the size of Norway -- was "based on continuing analysis of radar data between the South China Sea and the Strait of Malacca before radar contact was lost (with MH370)", AMSA said.

US officials cautious on landslide toll hike

LOS ANGELES (AFP) - The confirmed death toll from a massive US landslide rose to 17 but was expected to increase further, an official said yesterday, stressing caution out of sensitivity for victims' families.

Ninety people remain missing and officials had already said they had located eight other bodies after mud crashed down on the Washington state town of Oso last weekend.

Rain again hampered efforts by emergency teams

searching for bodies in the one-square mile (2.5-square-kilometer) mass of sticky mud and debris, which obliterated nearly 50 homes.

Snohomish County District 21 Fire Chief Travis Hots New figures would be made public at a 6:00 pm today.

More than 200 rescue workers have been working in tough conditions for five days. A few survivors were found immediately after the mudslide, but none since last Saturday.



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TEGUCIGALPA -- AFP photo shows members of the Military Police escorting suspected Honduran drug lord Carlos Arnoldo Lobo, also known as "Negro Lobo", to the Supreme Court in Tegucigalpa on March 28, 2014. "Negro Lobo", or black wolf, who is wanted by the United States for drug trafficking and money laundering, has been arrested while shopping in a bakery in the city of San Pedro Sula, some 240 km north of the capital Tegucigalpa, an official said.



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Venezuela court rejects release of opposition leader

CARACAS (AFP) - A court in Venezuela said Friday it had rejected an appeal for the release of jailed opposition leader Leopoldo Lopez, who stands accused by the government of inciting deadly protests.

The court of appeals said the complaint filed by Lopez's lawyers was "without merit."

Lopez, leader of the Popular Will party, was arrested in the midst of an anti-government protest on February 18.

"Today once again an injustice was committed," Lopez's wife Lilian Tintori said outside the court.

The court has until April 5 to decide whether to put Lopez on trial.

He has been charged with arson, damage to property, inciting the public and conspiracy.

A 42-year-old Harvard educated economist, Lopez has been singled out for encouraging street protests as a means to press for a change in government, a strategy known as "the exit."

The student-led protests erupted February 4 in the western border city of San Cristobal and quickly spread to Caracas.

At least 37 people have been killed in clashes with security forces since the start of the unrest, the worst challenge yet to the year-old government of President Nicolas Maduro.

Fueling the protests is public anger over a host of issues -- crime, inflation, shortages, and police repression of the demonstrations.

Angelina Jolie pays respect to Srebrenica victims

SREBRENICA (AFP) - Hollywood star Angelina Jolie on Friday paid respect to victims of the 1995 Srebrenica massacre after urging the international community to stop the use of sexual violence as a war weapon.

Jolie was accompanied to the ill-fated town by British Foreign Minister William Hague, while on a trip to Bosnia.

At the Srebrenica memorial centre museum, Jolie and Hague met women who were



raped during Bosnia's 1992-1995 war, as well as women whose beloved ones were killed in the massacre.

Dressed in black, with a

black headscarf to respect customs of Muslim women when they go at a cemetery, Jolie laid a wreath in front of a stone monument for the victims.

She then marched alongside a wall on which the names of some 8,000 people killed in Europe's worst atrocity since World War II were written.

Noticeably emotional and

barely able to contain tears, the actress and campaigner did not talk to journalists.

After capturing Srebrenica on July 11, 1995, Serb forces executed some 8,000 Muslim men and boys.

More than 6,000 massacre victims, whose remains were found in mass graves, were laid to rest at a memorial cemetery in the town.

Earlier on Friday, Jolie and Hague took part at a conference in the Bosnian capital on sexual violence in war, organised by the Balkan country's defence ministry.

Countdown to midnight: Gay marriage becomes legal in UK

LONDON (AFP) - The countdown began on Friday to the moment at midnight when same-sex marriage becomes law in England and Wales, the final stage in the long fight for equality for gay men and lesbians.

Several couples are vying to make history by saying "I do" in the first few minutes of Saturday morning, when the historic marriage law passed by parliament last year comes into force.

Many more plan to exchange vows in the hours that follow.

Civil partnerships have been legal since 2005 and marriage brings no new rights -- the ability to adopt, for example, was introduced in 2002. But campaigners demanded full equality with heterosexual couples.

Gay marriage was championed by Prime Minister David Cameron's government, and a rainbow flag will fly over government offices in London all weekend in celebration.

Although members of

Cameron's Conservative party and the established Church of England opposed the move, it has support from the majority of the public.

The law is the final victory in a long battle stretching back to the decriminalisation of homosexuality in England in 1967.

The Church of England had opposed same-sex marriage, insisting weddings should only take place between a man and a woman, and secured an exemption from the new law.

The House of Bishops last month also warned clergy they should not bless married gay couples.

But Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby, the leader of the world's 80 million Anglicans, indicated on Thursday that the Church would no longer campaign against the issue.

Fifteen countries have legalised gay marriage and another three allow it in some areas, but homosexuals remain persecuted in many parts of the world.

Beaten and demoralised, Ukraine soldiers sign up with Russia

SEVASTOPOL (AFP) - His eyes glazed and his step heavy, former Ukrainian soldier Sergei walks out of a naval office in Sevastopol after switching allegiance to the Russian army.

He is one of many making the choice to stay on in Crimea where the Ukrainian army stood by helplessly as Russia seized its military facilities in a matter of days after the peninsula voted to secede.

"I've decided to stay. I have my parents here, my wife's parents and my children," the grizzled soldier says softly.

He describes how he and his colleagues waited in vain for 17 days for orders from Kiev as their bases were surrounded by Russian troops and pro-Russian militia which moved in swiftly after Ukraine's government fell.

But the new leaders who ousted pro-Kremlin president Viktor Yanukovich in a street revolt were impotent as Moscow muscled its way into the strategic Black Sea peninsula and backed the March 16 breakaway vote.

The waiting troops stormed the naval headquarters last Wednesday after Crimea voted overwhelmingly in favour of the split.

"We were picked like ripe fruit," Sergei said angrily.

"If the Ukrainian army does nothing, it's not a difficult choice to quit it!"

For him the whole institution was badly managed, with rampant nepotism and "special favours" making it hard to carve out a successful career.

But he said he still loved Ukraine.

"It's my native country," he said, pausing to fiddle with his gold wedding ring before admitting: "I'm a little afraid of the reaction from Ukrainians. Many of them will take a long time to understand what we went through."

Behind him a young soldier in an oversize camouflage uniform is posted at a big metal door, checking the IDs of the steady flow of people going in to renounce their military affiliation with Ukraine.

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Marriage is healthy for the heart: study



WASHINGTON (AFP) - Being married makes for a healthy heart, while being divorced or widowed is linked to higher rates of cardiovascular disease, according to a study of 3.5 million people released Friday.

"These findings certainly shouldn't drive people to get married, but it's important to know that decisions regarding who one is with, why, and why not may have important implications for vascular health," said lead author Carlos Alviar, cardiology fellow at New York University Langone Medical Center.

People who were divorced had a higher likelihood of any vascular disease, abdominal aortic aneurysm, coronary artery disease and cerebrovascular disease when

compared to single people, according to the study.

Widowers showed slightly higher odds of any vascular disease and coronary artery disease, also when compared to people who had never been married.

Researchers were surprised to see that the health association was strongest in people under age 50.

In this group, marriage was linked to a 12 percent lower odds of any heart or artery disease.

Among those aged 51 to 60 there were seven percent lower odds of heart disease, and four percent among those 61 and older.

Since those involved were paid participants, they might not represent the general population, study authors noted.

Researchers fret over high cholesterol in US kids

WASHINGTON (AFP) - A third of US children tested for cholesterol have borderline or high levels, placing them at higher risk of cardiovascular disease as adults, says a study out Friday.

Researchers studied the medical records of nearly 13,000 kids in Texas aged nine to 11 who were screened for cholesterol as part of a routine checkup.

Of this group 4,700, or 30 percent, had borderline or elevated total cholesterol, said the study presented to the yearly conference of the American College of Cardiology, which is meeting this weekend in Washington.

These worrisome results show that "this is a population that needs attention and could potentially benefit from treatment," said Dr Thomas Seery, paediatric cardiologist at Texas Children's Hospital, assistant professor of Pediatrics at Baylor College of Medicine, and the lead investigator of the study.

Although cardiovascular illnesses are rare among children, the presence of certain risk factors in the early years of life can increase the chances of developing heart disease as an adult.

Previous studies have shown that atherosclerosis, a hardening and narrowing of the arteries, can begin in childhood.

It is estimated that 31.9 percent of youths aged two to 19 are overweight or obese in this country.

Researchers conducting this study also found that boys were more likely than girls to have elevated total cholesterol, low-density

lipoprotein (LDL), or "bad" cholesterol, and triglycerides, while girls had lower high-density lipoprotein (HDL) or "good" cholesterol.

The authors said they hope their findings will give more weight to guidelines sponsored by the National Heart Lung and Blood Institute and issued in 2011 and sponsored by the American Academy of Pediatrics that call for uni-

versal cholesterol screening of children between the ages of nine and 11 years and, again between 17 and 21.

Currently, cholesterol-lowering medications are typically needed in one to two percent of children with dyslipidemia, primarily in those with very high cholesterol resulting from a genetic lipoprotein disorder, they said.

Hunger, malnutrition in Canada's Arctic nears crisis

OTTAWA (AFP) - A new report highlighted growing hunger and malnutrition in Canada's Arctic as development snowballs and tastes change, and called for immediate actions to stop an "emerging public health crisis."

The report found that most northern households are twice as likely -- 27 percent versus a national average of 12 percent -- to face hunger or fear of starvation.

Northern households with children reported even higher rates of food insecurity. Nearly 115,000 people, mostly indigenous, live in Canada's northern territories.

The peer-reviewed study for the Canadian government, which is promoting economic development in the Arctic as warming opens up the region to shipping, mining and oil and gas drilling.

However, jobs alone for populations that lived as hunter-gatherers for centuries won't address the problem, the authors concluded.

The expert panel called for

"a range of holistic approaches" that includes a poverty reduction strategy, economic development and support for local food systems.

Undernourishment has become a "particularly serious and growing challenge" for northerners and "is a problem that requires urgent attention to address and mitigate the serious impacts it has on health and well-being," the researchers said.

The root of the problem is equally complex, they said, with "colonialism and environmental dispossession, rapid and sometimes unpredictable environmental change, economic transitions and material poverty, changing demographics and current logistical challenges" at play.

The report notes that the average cost of groceries in Canada's Nunavut territory is Can\$19,760 (US\$17,877) per year, while half of Inuit adults earn less than Can\$20,000 per year.

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Arnie tries for subtlety, with guns, in 'Sabotage'



LOS ANGELES (AFP) - By his own admission, Arnold Schwarzenegger is famous for "black and white," good-versus-bad films. So his latest movie is something of a departure, nuanced and complex, tender even.

Although of course, it is still violent and action-packed.

In "Sabotage," the 66-year-old actor plays Breacher, head of a special unit of the US Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) whose members start being brutally killed one by one, after a cartel bust.

He still spends a large part of the film armed to the teeth and in commando mode, but his character is also moving, obsessed with a tragic past, and capable of tenderness with his men.

"I've never played a character like this. My characters are usually black and white, I'm the good guy and there are the bad guys, then with a little bit of humor throughout the movie and that's it," he said.

"I thought that it would really be great for me to be challenged like that," he told reporters in Beverly Hills, before the movie's US release Friday.

Challenging him was director David Ayer, who made 2012's "End of Watch" and wrote the screenplays for "The Fast and the Furious" and "Training Day" in 2001, and 2003's "S.W.A.T."

"When we got together, David had a whole list of things that he wanted me to do," said Arnie. "I love that he pushed me, because some-

times directors get intimidated when they meet someone like me."

Ayer said he was keen to put the former Mr. Universe to the test. "It's showing a new version of Arnold," the 45-year-old director told AFP.

"Here is a man who's had this long famous career, and starred in many successful movies and then to have the opportunity to really work with him as a creative actor and to draw new things out of him was a wonderful challenge."

The megastar returned to the big screen after leaving office as governor of California in 2011, making two "Expendables" movies followed by "The Last Stand" (2013) and "Escape Plan" last year.

He has four other films in the works, including a return to the cyborg role which made him famous in "Terminator: Genesis," due out next year.

"People love to see him as strong men, a leader, with the gun fights and action. I delivered that but it's also seeing him in a new way, with soul, heart, with sadness and complexity," said Ayer.

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India Fashion Week



Bollywood film actress Shilpa Shetty showcases a creation by Indian designer Tarun Tahiliani



Rahul's Mishra "The Lotus effect"

NEW DELHI - Fashion designer Rahul Mishra showcased 'The lotus effect' collection, which helped him to scoop the coveted International Woolmark Prize (IWP) in Milan, at the Wills Lifestyle India Fashion Week (WIFW) 2014 on its second day in New Delhi. Mishra's new collection is essentially made with merino wool and it was spun in superfine way, which make the clothes wearable in all seasons. The collection, inspired by Lord Buddha's philosophy that lotus is found in womb of the world, attempted to portray the journey of human race and the process of metamorphosis that earth has undergone in the last century.

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Toxic water scandal hits Italian region

ROME (AFP) - An Italian official was forced Friday to reassure residents their water is safe to drink, after tests showed that toxic waste had leaked into the supply in the central region of Abruzzo.

Following a series of alarming reports, regional governor Gianni Chiodi said that water was "no longer poisoned" and was of "excellent quality".

Tests published this week showed toxic waste had infected the water supply of some 700,000 people in the Abruzzo region -- more than half the territory's population -- between 2004 and 2007, after industrial waste buried for decades leaked into the water supply.

Montedison, now known as Edison, is accused of burying some 250,000 tonnes of toxic and industrial waste at a facility in Abruzzo, which has been open since the 1960s.

Some 19 Montedison executives are currently on trial as a result of the investigation into the leaks.

Forest rangers and environmentalists from the WWF first reported finding traces of toxic chemicals in the water supply in 2007.

These initial tests led to a broader investigation, the results of which were released Wednesday by Italy's state public health institute.

The Corriere della Sera daily said the chemicals found in the water supply could affect the nervous system, the liver and kidneys and are suspected of being carcinogenic, although no cases of illnesses linked to the pollution have yet been reported.

"Knowing 700,000 people might have drunk polluted water for years is terrifying," Environment Minister Gian Luca Galletti told the *Il Mattino* daily.



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Comet lander awakes from long hibernation

PARIS (AFP) - European space experts said on Friday they had successfully reawakened a fridge-sized robot designed to make the first-ever spacecraft landing on a comet.

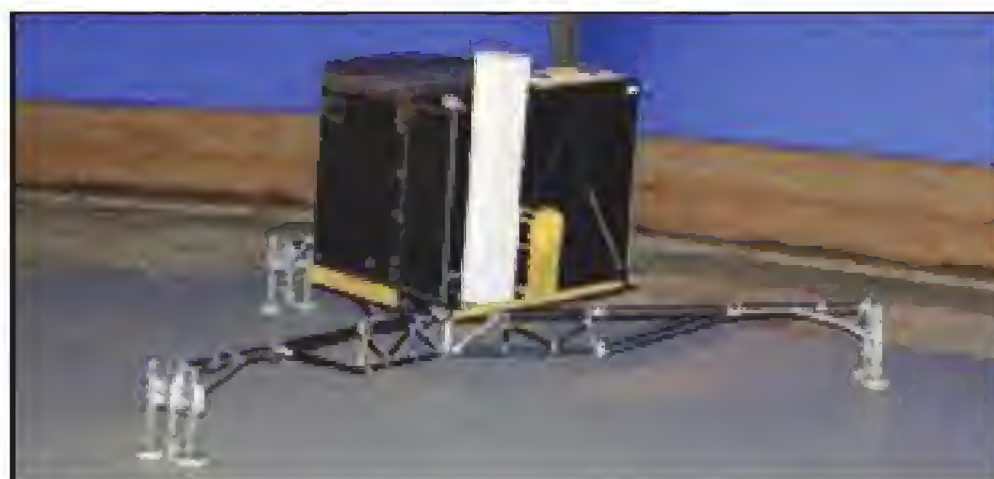
The 100-kilogramme (220-pound) Philae lander was revived after more than three years of deep space hibernation, in a key phase of a billion-dollar mission launched over a decade ago.

France's National Centre for Space Studies (CNES), in Paris, said that the spacecraft had re-established contact with Earth, and that an "initial signal was received at 3.00 pm (1400 GMT) today at mission control in Cologne, Germany".

A Twitter account set up for the robotic lander said: "My controllers say that I am in quite good condition after 39 months of hibernation."

The lander is travelling aboard an unmanned probe called Rosetta which will make an historic rendezvous with Comet 67P/Churyumov-Gerasimenko, currently 650 million kilometres (400 million miles) from Earth, this summer.

In November, the Philae lander is due to descend to the comet, anchoring itself before using an array of 10 instruments to probe the sur-



face and analyse its dusty ice.

Comets follow elliptical orbits around the Sun, spewing spectacular tails of

gas and dust as close brushes with the star cause their surface ice to evaporate.

Dramatic sightings over

the course of human history have given birth to many myths associating these wanderers of the Solar System with great events like famines and wars.

For cosmologists, though, they are balls of ice and dust offering insights into how the Solar System formed 4.5 billion years ago.

Some scientists believe comets may have brought much of the water in today's oceans and possibly the complex molecules that kickstarted life on Earth.

Scientists create 'designer' chromosome

PARIS (AFP) - Scientists have created the first man-made chromosome for a complex-celled organism -- a feat hailed Friday as a big step towards acquiring the controversial ability to redesign plants or animals. A synthetic chromosome was inserted into a brewer's yeast cell, which functioned as normal -- the key test of success, the international team reported. Yeast is a closely-studied representative of the group of eukaryotes, organisms with complex cells that contain a nucleus and other structures enclosed within membranes. All plants and animals, including humans, have eukaryotic cells. Chromosomes have previously been synthesised for bacteria, which are simpler, prokaryotic organisms. Yeast is

used to make beer, biofuel and medicines, and researchers believe it can be made to work more efficiently with genetic modifications. "Our research moves the needle in synthetic biology from theory to reality," said Jef Boeke, director of the New York University's Institute for Systems Genetics, who was a member of the research team.



BlackBerry posts fresh losses, but sees upside

MONTREAL (AFP) - BlackBerry yesterday reported fresh losses but offered some reasons for optimism as the smartphone maker struggles to escape from a death spiral.

The Canadian firm reported a loss of \$423 million in the fourth quarter of its 2014 fiscal year, as revenues sank.

Revenues fell to \$976 million in the fourth quarter -- down from \$2.7 billion 12 months earlier. Sales of smartphones fell from 1.9 million to 1.3 million in the fourth quarter, the company

said.

The company said it is targeting "break even cash flow results by the end of fiscal 2015," which began this month.

BlackBerry said it delivered some 3.4 million smartphones in the quarter, but 2.3 million were the older models using its BlackBerry 7 operating system.

Shares in BlackBerry opened with a jump of 5.5 percent at \$9.55, as some investors saw signs of a turnaround.

GM suspends sales of some Chevy Cruzes



NEW YORK (AFP) - General Motors, already facing strong criticism and investigations over its handling of ignition-related recalls, yesterday abruptly halted dealer sales of some models of its Chevrolet Cruze compact.

No reason was given for the move, which focuses on 2013 and 2014 Cruzes with 1.4 liter turbo diesel engines, a GM spokesman said.

Nor was there any specific information about the number of cars involved, but the model has been popular among people seeking high fuel efficiency.

The spokesman said it sold nearly 250,000 Cruzes in all models in 2013, with the turbo "a fraction" of the total.

The move comes as GM faces Justice Department and congressional probes into why it took years to recall a number of car models which it knew had dangerous problems with their ignitions.

The automaker said 12 people died and more than 30 accidents occurred in relation to the problem, in which the ignition can turn to the off position while driving, shutting down key electrical systems including airbags.

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China, Germany rev up political, economic ties on Xi visit

BERLIN (AFP) - Export giants Germany and China yesterday pledged to deepen their strategic ties during a landmark visit by Chinese President Xi Jinping to Berlin, which also saw the inking of a raft of economic pacts.

Germany's leading car industry took center-stage on Xi's third stop of a European tour, with auto giant Daimler announcing a production deal with its Chinese partner worth one billion euros (\$1.4 billion).

The deal with Beijing Automotive Industry Corporation (BAIC Group) would see production capacity expanded at their joint venture Beijing Benz (BBAC) by 2015.

Using a motoring metaphor, Xi said that as long as it had "a full tank" and right steering, German-Chinese cooperation had a "promising future".

The two leaders announced that they had agreed to work out an action plan to further step up ties, including

regular consultations on regional and global political and security matters.

In a joint declaration, China and Germany also pledged closer cooperation within international bodies, such as the G20 and United Nations.

Germany is China's biggest EU trading partner, while the Asian giant is a massive market for German machines, technology and cars.

Last year German-Chinese trade hit \$161.5 billion, according to the newly-established Chinese Chamber of Trade in Germany.

After a clutch of multi-billion-dollar business deals were inked during Xi's last stop in France, a raft of 18 political and economic pacts, many of them declarations of intent or preliminary accords, were signed in Berlin Friday.

Among them, the Bundesbank and China's central bank agreed a declaration of intent to set up a yuan clearing and settlement centre in Germany's financial capital, Frankfurt.

BMW says to invest \$1bn to ramp up US production of SUVs



SPARTANBURG (AFP) -- German automaker BMW said yesterday it plans to invest up to \$1 billion (730 million euros) by 2016 to expand output of its X-series all-wheel drive SUV vehicles at its US factory. "This will increase annual production capacity by 50 percent up to 450,000 vehicles from 300,000 currently," chief executive Norbert Reithofer was quoted in a company statement as saying at in Spartanburg, S.C. BMW is launching production at the facility of the X4 model and announced it would also build the X7 at the plant. It also has plans to build a plug-in hybrid X5 at the factory. The expansion means an additional 800 jobs, taking employment to 8,000 at the plant.



Current as of:
03/28/2014

	USD	banknotes		
U.S.A.	USD	1.77	1.78	1.80
Dutch Antilles	ANG	98.00	100.00	100.20
Canada	CAD	1.59	1.61	1.63
Britain	GBP	2.90	2.95	3.01
Switzerland	CHF	200.99	201.71	202.51
Netherlands	EUR	242.84	245.05	247.52
Sweden	SEK	26.46	27.18	27.98
Denmark	DKK	31.87	32.59	33.39
Norway	NOK	28.75	29.47	30.27
Japan	JPY	172.35	173.92	175.67
(per 10 000)				

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YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer

I	M	P	S	O	F	T	F	A	L	A
N	E	O	C	A	R	R	I	O	T	
K	A	N	G	A	R	O	O	I	D	O
S	T	E	A	M	M	U	D	D		
			S	S	N	S	N	A	R	E
S	L	I	P	E	L	S	A	A	R	I
L	O	B	S	R	A	E	K	R	I	S
A	R	M	N	O	T	A	N	E	C	K
B	E	S	T	O	W	U	S	E		
			I	G	O	R	A	L	A	M
P	E	N	N	L	E	N	G	T	H	E
S	W	A	G	F	L	E	A	A	M	Y
T	E	T	E	E	Y	E	S	B	O	X

COMICS

PICKLES



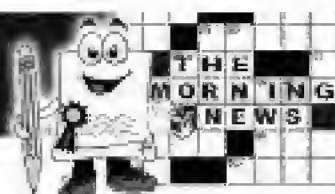
MOMMA



CALVIN and HOBBS



CROSSWORD

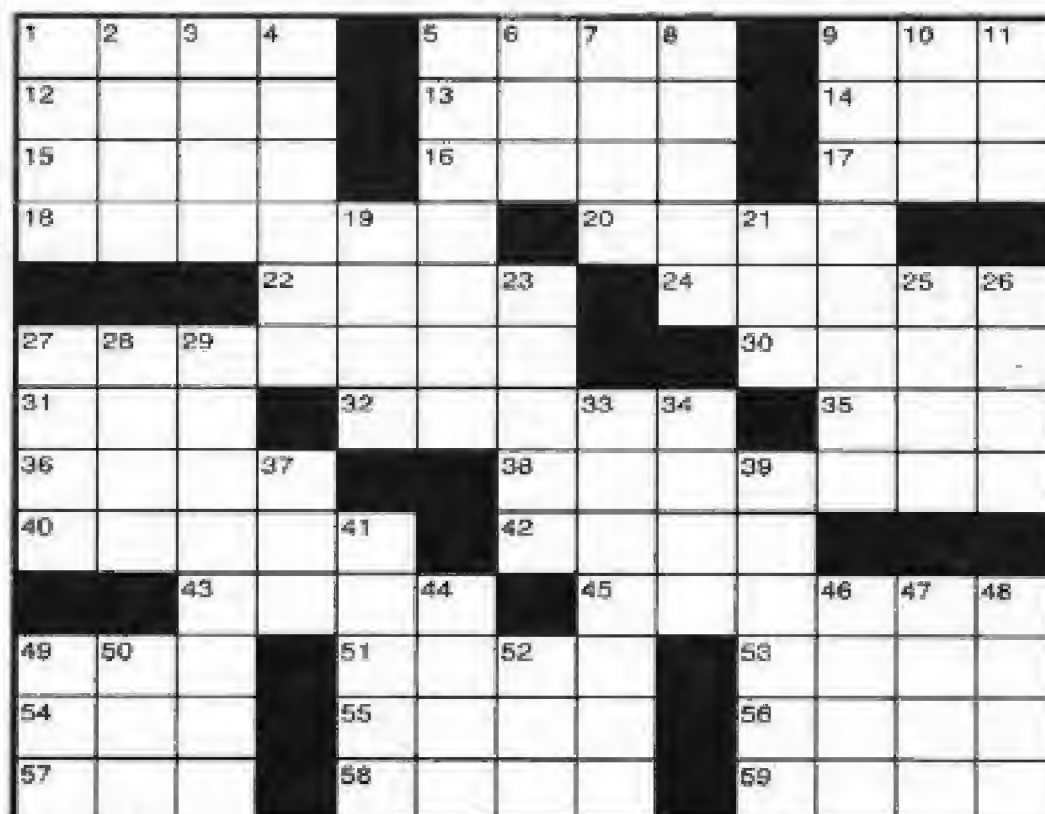


CROSSWORD

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ACROSS

1. Summon
5. West's opposite
9. Accomplished
12. Have ___ in one's bonnet (2 wds.)
13. Small creature
14. Supplement
15. Finger jewel
16. Ready a patient
17. Pasture
18. Use a minus sign
20. Material for Christmas tree snow
22. "The Ghost and Mrs. ___"
24. Round wooden stick
27. Football figure
30. Squirrel away
31. Crack pilot
32. Ferber et al.
35. Dweller (abbr.)
36. Rug style
38. Limo company employees
40. Watering devices
42. Miffed
43. Brisk gait



45. Spent (2 wds.)
49. Clock numeral
51. Nays
53. "___ and shine!"
54. Maria ___
55. Actress Fonda
56. Writer Hunter
57. Manchester's locale (abbr.)
58. Finds a sum
59. Loco

DOWN

1. Birthday greeting
2. Irish Rose's love
3. Allow usage
4. Pod vegetable
5. Drained out
6. Atmospheric content
7. Part of a flower
8. Slightly warm
9. The First State
10. Singer Turner
11. Narc's org.
19. Doctor's goal
21. Businesses (abbr.)
23. Wrests
25. Continually
26. Not as much
27. Allergic reaction, sometimes
28. Repeated sound
29. Enjoying a fancy meal
33. Incites
34. Misters
37. Berlin's country (abbr.)
39. Changed course abruptly
41. Skater Henie
44. Leaping amphibian
46. Opera star
47. Flying milit. branch
48. Closely confined
49. "___ Got a Secret"
50. Charged particle
52. Defensive ___

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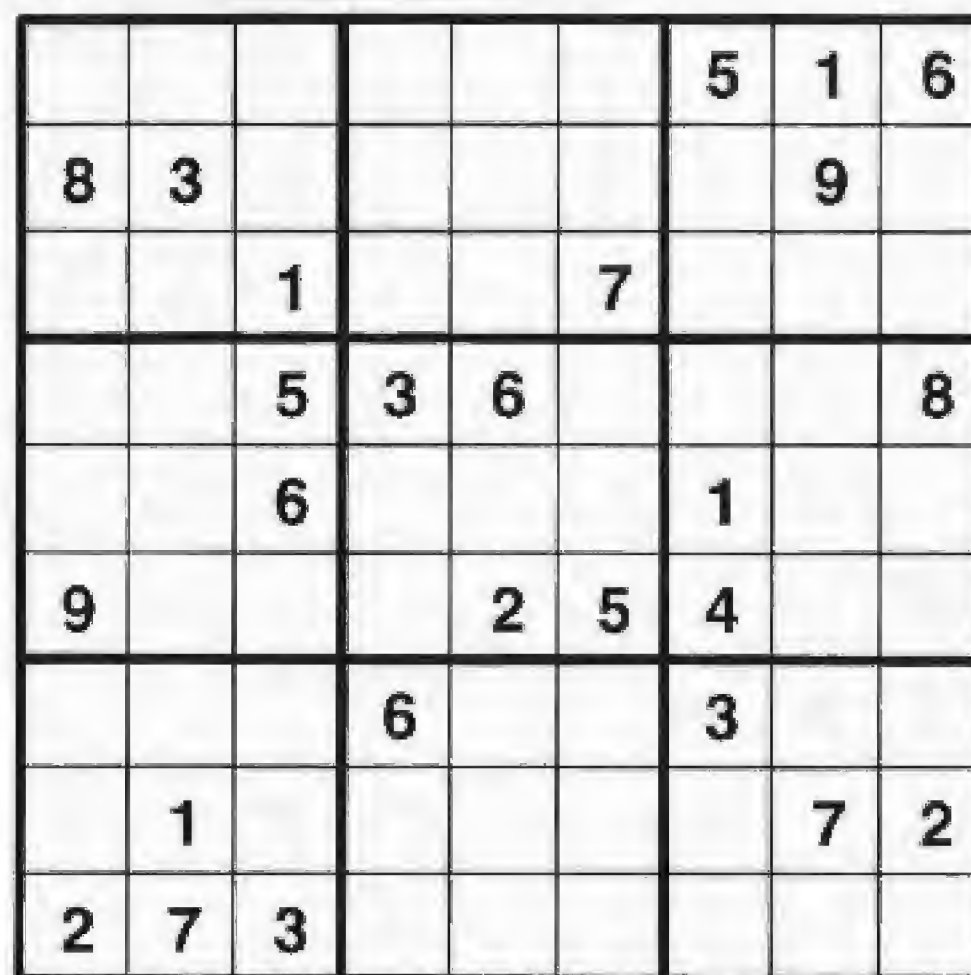
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Sudoku



SOLUTION

5	7	9	1	8	6	3	2	4
3	4	6	5	9	7	8	1	9
1	8	5	2	4	9	6	5	7
5	9	7	5	2	1	4	9	6
6	5	1	8	7	4	9	2	3
9	2	4	6	9	5	3	1	7
7	6	8	4	5	2	1	9	5
4	5	2	9	1	5	7	6	8
9	1	5	7	6	9	8	3	4

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9
A number is Never repeated in a row or column.
In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9

O Condominiums

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Aruba's most successful developers of secure, superior communities for both the permanent and part time resident market, will soon break ground on what they consider their most exclusive project to date. Known for 16 years of unmatched quality and service, the Cas Bon people are proud to unveil their new pet

project: O Condominiums. This is the same company which developed the innovative Gold Coast Villas community in Malmok.

Renowned for reliable construction, developers of O Condominiums consider the boutique community will be the "jewel in the crown" of the nine projects they have successfully completed and

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have weather stripping to insure less cost on air-conditioning, which is integrated into construction. Homeowners will have input into the finishing they prefer in the kitchen and other rooms, to customize your condominium to your taste. Public amenities will include an elegant pool deck, concierge

services, lounge area, BBQ station, fitness room, assigned parking, additional outside storage for bicycles and personal items, and 24-hour security. A quiet, secluded section of Eagle beach is only a few steps from the front door.

O Condominiums officially opened the doors of their sales office onsite at Eagle Beach on December 24. Interested parties can inspect the project in a spacious plot right next to the gourmet Screaming Eagle restaurant. The project is directed towards discerning clients seeking a top quality property on Aruba in an ideal, tranquil, beachfront location. Prospective property owners will find the Cas Bon people enjoy an exceptional reputation on Aruba for excellence and reliability.

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Discover authentic Aruban cuisine at *The Queen's*



Mama Luisa hard at work in the kitchen

Enjoy a true taste of Aruba without having to travel in the charming surroundings of The Queen's Restaurant in the Palm Beach Plaza Mall. Your host, Varela Innocencia has brought her very popular Oranjestad eatery to Palm Beach, showcasing authentic local cuisine only a short walk away from the major resorts.

The "hipper" and elegant new digs offer beautiful views, but Mama Luisa's magical touch in the kitchen is what

first won this charming eatery their loyal clientele. She can be counted on to be conjuring up the delicious dishes that have been in her family for generations. As Varela says, "My mom loves and lives to cook. Even when she is not at work in the restaurant, she is experimenting with new dishes all day at home."

She is the Queen of the Kitchen."

Be sure to try Luisa's acclaimed "Carni Stoba di Ma-

machi" - "Grandma's Beef Stew," or their fresh, whole snapper, with Mama Luisa's delectable salsa criollo. Don't miss the specialty of the house, a favorite local delicacy, Keshi Yena - "Filled Cheese." This is a tasty, filling stew of chicken, with other ingredients that are handy that day, all incased in a thick skin of melted Gouda. It is satisfying and particularly memorable. Regional side dishes and some of Mama's secret recipe prepara-

tion of banana hasa and creamy potatoes provide a deliciously picturesque meal.

The Queen's is located on the second level of Palm Beach Plaza, tucked into a cozy corner at the front of the mall. If you have a mind to try the real deal in Aruban food, without a doubt, this is the way to go, reasonably priced and easily accessible. A full menu can be seen on their website, <http://www.thequeensaruba.com/>.

queensaruba.com/.

Aside from an extensive regular menu they also have daily specials made from whatever is in season, and Mama Luisa is in the mood to prepare, so don't be shy about asking for something that may not be on the menu, as they are always eager to please.

The Queen's is open daily from 3:00 pm - 11:00 pm, offering both indoor and outdoor dining.

Football: PSG win again ahead of Chelsea showdown

PARIS (AFP) - Paris Saint-Germain warmed up for their Champions League showdown with Chelsea by recording a narrow 1-0 win at Nice on Friday that took them another step closer to the Ligue 1 title.

For the second week in a row, the reigning French champions were some way short of their flowing best, but a solitary second-half goal, credited as an own goal by Nice full-back Timothee Kolodziejczak, saw them to victory by the same score as at Lorient seven days earlier.

PSG's club record-breaking sequence of consecutive wins now stretches to nine and they have also gone five straight matches without conceding a goal in Ligue 1 as they open up a provisional 13-point lead at the top of the table over Monaco, who visit Evian on Saturday.

The capital side have struggled frequently in Nice in recent years and were beaten 2-1 at the old Stade du Ray last season, but their mid-table hosts lacked the cutting edge to repeat the feat at their impressive new Allianz Riviera home.

With one eye on Chelsea, PSG coach Laurent Blanc left Alex, Maxwell, Blaise Matuidi and Marco Verratti on the bench at kick-off, but captain Thiago Silva started with a mask protecting the cheekbone he fractured against Lorient.

Nice's entire starting lineup had scored nine goals fewer between them than Zlatan Ibrahimovic, indicating the size of task awaiting Claude Puel's men, and their evening got off to a bad start when the eagle that is their symbol shied out of its pre-match flight around the stadium, opting to hide beneath the roof instead.

They were lucky not to fall behind in the opening 15 minutes as Ezequiel Lavezzi twice missed the target for the visitors when well placed and Yohan Cabaye's sweetly-struck 30-yard effort swerved inches wide of the top right-hand corner.

Nice did have the ball in the net at the other end, but top scorer Dario Cvitanich's header was correctly ruled out for offside, leaving the Argentine still with just one



Paris Saint-Germain's Swedish forward Zlatan Ibrahimovic vies with Nice's Malian midfielder Mahamane Traore

league goal to his name since early November.

The game raged from end to end in the opening period, but PSG's keeper Salvatore Sirigu was never seriously tested while opposite number David Ospina made two excellent saves from Edinson Cavani and Ibrahimovic before also denying Silva just before the half-time whistle.

Nice were looking to build on a run of three games without defeat but they fell behind nine minutes into the second half.

Javier Pastore's flighted ball into the box was headed on by Ibrahimovic towards

Cavani, but it was Kolodziejczak who turned it into his own net as he tried to prevent Cavani from scoring what would have been his 15th of the campaign.

PSG might have scored again when Lucas Digne fired the ball towards goal with Ospina on the ground but Mathieu Bodmer got back to clear from just in front of the line.

And they held on to take the three points, with Nice only threatening to equalise from two Eric Bauthéac free-kicks, one that flew over and another that was boxed away by Sirigu.

Tennis: Nishikori out of Miami, hands Djokovic final spot

MIAMI (AFP) - Japan's Kei Nishikori withdrew from the ATP Miami Masters with a left groin injury on Friday, shortly before he was to meet world number two Novak Djokovic in the semi-finals.

The injury ended Nishikori's sparkling run at the hardcourt tournament -- where he beat world number five David Ferrer and Swiss great Roger Federer in the fourth round and quarter-finals.

It also throws into doubt Nishikori's participation in Japan's Davis Cup World Group quarter-final clash with holders Czech Republic, to be held in Tokyo from April 4-6.

"I don't know if I can play or not," Nishikori said of Japan's first Davis Cup quarter-final tie under the tourna-

ment's modern format. "I will try."

Nishikori broke the news of his Miami withdrawal on Twitter and Facebook.

The 24-year-old Japanese player rallied from a set down to upset Federer 3-6, 7-5, 6-4 on Wednesday night to reach the second Masters semi-final of his career.

He had saved four match points to beat Spain's Ferrer 7-6 (9/7), 2-6, 7-6 (9/7) in the fourth round.

His withdrawal gave Djokovic a walkover into Sunday's final, where he'll face either world number one Rafael Nadal or Czech Tomas Berdych.

Djokovic is in the Miami final for the fifth time, and will be seeking a fourth title to go with those he won in 2007, 2011 and 2012.

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Football: Hiddink to return as Dutch coach



THE HAGUE (AFP) - Guus Hiddink will take over from Louis van Gaal as Netherlands coach after the World Cup finals, the Dutch Football Federation (KNVB) announced Friday. Hiddink, 67, will bring in former internationals Danny Blind and Ruud van Nistelrooy as his main assistants. He had already indicated this month that he would return. Hiddink was in charge of the Dutch team that came fourth at the 1998 World Cup. He ended that three year stint shortly after the finals. Hiddink will coach the side until the 2016 European championships in France and former Sparta Rotterdam and Ajax defender Blind, 52, will then take over until the 2018 World Cup in Russia, the KNVB said. Former striker Van Nistelrooy, 37, played with clubs including Manchester United and Real Madrid. Hiddink is a national hero in South Korea after taking the national side to fourth place at the 2002 World Cup finals they co-hosted. He has also coached Russia, Turkey and Australia and top clubs Real Madrid, PSV Eindhoven and Chelsea. Hiddink left the Russian club Anzhi in July 2013. Van Gaal, 62, had already indicated he would leave after the 2014 World Cup in Brazil. The Netherlands were runners-up at the 2010 World Cup but slumped to three defeats in as many matches at Euro 2012. They are drawn in Group B for the World Cup with title-holders Spain, Chile and Australia. For Euro 2016 they are in Group A qualifying group with the Czech Republic, Turkey, Latvia, Iceland and Kazakhstan.

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NBA: Philadelphia equals NBA futility record



HOUSTON (AFP) - The Philadelphia 76ers tied the National Basketball Association record of 26 consecutive losses after being hammered 120-98 by the Houston Rockets on Thursday.

Philadelphia joins the 2010-11 Cleveland Cavaliers for the longest single-season losing streak in history with 26 straight defeats.

"We are going through a tough time," Philadelphia head coach Brett Brown. "The group will stay together and we will finish this thing out together."

The Sixers can set the NBA record with a loss to the Detroit Pistons on Saturday.

Philadelphia haven't won since a last-second victory on the road against the Boston Celtics on January 29.

James Harden posted his second career triple-double with 26 points, 10 rebounds and 10 assists for the Rockets, who have won 11 in a row at home and five-straight overall.

"We did a great job of coming out tonight and taking care of business," said Harden. "No matter what their record was, we knew they were going to come here

and play hard."

Terrence Jones tallied 20 points, seven rebounds and four steals for Houston, which improved to 29-7 at home this season.

Dwight Howard had 17 points and 13 rebounds in the win.

James Anderson finished with 30 points against his former team for Philadelphia, who never were in this game and have now lost 12 in a row on the road. Anderson was waived by Houston in July.

If Sixers coach Brown is worried about their place in history he isn't showing it publicly.

Henry Sims and Thaddeus Young had 18 and 15 points, with Young also grabbing nine rebounds.

Philadelphia tied the game 43-43 on an Anderson layup with just over six minutes left in the second quarter. But the Rockets closed out the half on a 20-6 surge to take a 63-49 lead.

Houston led by as many as 27 in the third and grabbed a 100-80 lead heading into the fourth.

The Rockets outscored the Sixers by a 20-18 margin in the final frame.

TAJ MAHAL; Taste of INDIA - If you like your Indian food authentic, or are looking for a new and unique dining experience, an evening at Taj Mahal will deliver a memorable meal. A seemingly endless menu offers scores of choices for fish, chicken, lamb and vegetarian dishes that are "the real deal," discover that Indian food goes way beyond curry!

Taj Mahal's Tai Choice is a great way to start the meal and be initiated into the joys of Indian cuisine, offering a diverse selection of traditional favorites. It contains hearty portions of Pakoras, crispy vegetarian fritters, Aloo Tikki, potato cutlets, Chicken Tikka, tender chicken breast pieces seasoned just right, and shaped and seasoned ground lamb, charmingly dubbed "Sheik Kebabs." All is served on a bed of sliced onions and brought to your table on a sizzling platter, and you will want to dish those sautéed onions on to one of their tasty Indian breads called Naan, leaving behind not a single crumb.

Main dishes are accompanied by a choice of rice, mixed vegetables rich with garlic, or Naan, plain, buttered, onion or garlic, and you will want to order an extra basket or two of this tasty de-



light, on which you can spoon your main course, as well. Poori is crispy fried naan, and most definitely worth the extra two dollars to sample with your meal.

Located behind the Royal Plaza Mall, Taj Mahal offers a dining experience that is truly out of the ordinary, they feature an excellent and tasty selection for vegetarians too. If you are a fan of Indian food, or have been toying with trying it, Taj Mahal is the place for a very affordable dining experience and the real deal!

Call 588-4494 for reservations.

Rhudy Donata attends Latin American Congress on Little Leagues

ORANJESTAD - Just recently the Aruba Little League attended a congress in Nicaragua.

This year, Baseball Little League was represented by District Administrator, Rhudy Donata. This, reportedly, was a very important congress, valuable for the development of Little League in the Caribbean and Latin America.

During the congress they introduced certain new rules which will result in some interesting changes in the leagues, especially in the small countries in the Caribbean.

One of the new rules is that players can now choose to play in the league represented by the school they are attending and not necessarily by their address.

In Aruba this was not possible, but now has become a reality. It will become an interesting development for the future of the three leagues on Aruba. This was only one of the many interesting developments during this congress.

They also distributed the



competition schedule for the Latin American Little League championships. For the past years, Aruba has been participating at the five leagues competing against those in our region.

The Lotto pa Deporte Subsidy Commission is very pleased to invest in our young athletes and sports directors working hard for the welfare of our local athletes.

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WITH BLOOD, SWEAT,
AND THE OCCASIONAL TEAR.**

Baseball: Tigers ink slugger Cabrera to record extension

LAKELAND (AFP) - The Tigers inked Miguel Cabrera to an eight-year contract extension that will keep the superstar slugger in Detroit through 2023 for a reported record-setting \$292 million (212 million euros).

"When you have a star player, you're much better trying to sign them with two years on the contract rather than one," said Tigers president and general manager

Dave Dombrowski said Friday.

"When you get to that one year away, that lure of free agency becomes very large for a player.

"Secondly, they get additional pressures to test that market," Dombrowski said, adding that he thought it was the "optimum time" for the team to lock up their star.

The Tigers did not disclose the financial terms of



the deal, but multiple reports put the value of the extension at \$248 million (180 million euros) guaranteed.

Add in the remaining two years on Cabrera's current contract, worth \$44 million (32 million euros) and he would make about \$292 million over the next 10 seasons.

The entire package marks the richest contract in Major League Baseball history, surpassing the 10-year, \$275 million (200 million euros) deal signed by Alex Rodriguez after the 2007 season.

"Since coming to Detroit, my family and I have been treated so great by the organization," Cabrera said Friday.

"I'm thrilled that I'll continue to represent the great city of Detroit and the amazing fans for many years to come," added the Venezuelan who broke into the majors at age 20 in 2003 with the Marlins and helped the club to a World Series title that season.

Cabrera spent the next four seasons with the Marlins before joining the Tigers in a December 2007 trade.

An eight-time All-Star, Cabrera put together back-to-back Most Valuable Player seasons to earn the big payday.

In 2012, Cabrera became the first player since Carl Yastrzemski in 1967 to win a batting Triple Crown by leading the American League with 44 home runs, 139 runs-batted-in and a .330 batting average.

He captured a third straight batting title last season after hitting a career-high .348, while finishing second in the AL with 44 homers and 137 RBI.

"Miguel is the most prolific hitter in baseball and one of the best players in the game," Dombrowski said.

"We are thrilled Miguel had a desire to continue his stellar career in Detroit and remain in a Tigers uniform for many years to come."

Since signing his current eight-year contract in 2008, Cabrera has hit .327 and averaged 38 homers and 123 RBI.

His 227 homers, 737 RBI and .588 slugging percentage in that span are all the best in baseball over that period.

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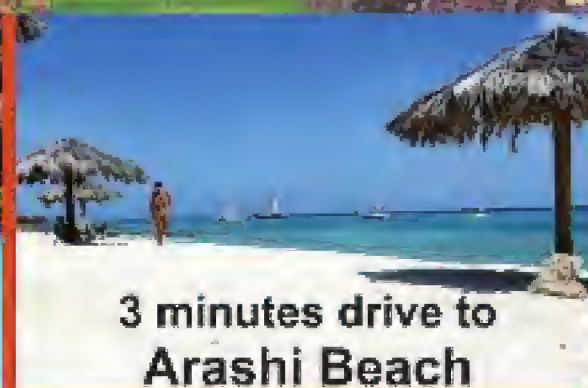
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